

Adding Fractions

You must have common denominators (same number on the bottom)

Multiply the numerator by the number of multiples

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{5}{10} + \frac{4}{10} = \frac{9}{10}$$

Diagram showing the conversion of $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{10}$ (multiplied by 5) and $\frac{2}{5}$ to $\frac{4}{10}$ (multiplied by 2).

List the Multiples of each Denominator

When you find the lowest one in common STOP!

This becomes the new denominator

4 10

6

8

10

Since there are two multiples of five to get to ten you must multiply the numerator and denominator by two.

Since there are five multiples to get to ten for the two, you must multiply the denominator and the numerator by five.